(b) and (c) The problems faced by sick and weak tea gardens have been engaging the attention of the Government. In the past, Tea Board had undertaken an exercise to identify such weak and sick tea gardens and also to find out reasons for their sickness. Discussions have been held by the Tea Board with representatives of commercial banks and the concerned tea gardens to find out ways and means for revival of these gardens by evolving a comprehensive a rehabilitation package. Tea Research Association has also been requested to admit the weak gardens under its membership at subsidised subscription rate and to provide technical know how for their betterment.

Statement

List of sick tea gardens

1. Madanpur*
2. Saraswati*
3. Durganagar
4. Monicrkhal
5. Ramanikrishna
6. Goombhira
7. Chincooria*
8. Binodnagar*
9. Sonaicherra*
10. Hatticherra*
11. Subhong
12. Madan Mohan*
13. Maniknagar
14. Rajarampur*
15. Bhuvan Valley
16. Cosaipora
17. Messamara*
18. Deepling
19. Rungamatty*
20. Naganijan
21. Cinnamara
22. Sycotta
23. Negheriting
24. Woka
25. Rajabarrie
26. Topia
27. Sogra*
28. Chardwar**
29. Bholaguri*
30. Singrimari
31. Longai
32. Ishabheel
33. Bidyanagar
34. Srikona*
35. Lakhipur
36. Rahmannagar
37. Rabbania
38. Singlacherra
39. Chargola*
40. Kunchanpore
41. Balacherra
42. Pathecherra
43. Bajrangpur
44. Bardwar
45. Amluckia
46. Dejoovalley
47. Loongsong**
48. Rani (Closed)
49. Tapasia (Closed)
50. Noanuddy (Closed)
51. Dirpai (Closed)
52. Khoreel (Closed)

Note: *Denotes no factory. Gardens without factory do not come under the purview of Tea Act, 1953.
**Factory defunct.

Amendments in Dunkel Draft Text

692. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pelased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the texts of the Dunkel draft have been suitably amended in the final agreement reached on December 15, 1993 so as to protect the rights of farmers to save seeds for replanting even without specific approval from plant breeders;

(b) whether the texts have been similarly changed to protect the rights of research workers engaged in scientific investigation in plant genetics;

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the negative what corrective measures Government propose to adopt to protect the interests of our farmer and scientists; and

(d) whether Government are in consonance with the comment of Indian Ambassador in Geneva that whether the outcome of the new GATT Agreement is 'going to be good or bad only time can tell'?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The TAIPS agreement does not prohibit members from providing for the rights of farmers to save seed for replanting without specific approval from

plant breeders or from providing for the rights of researchers to use protected seed for scientific investigation without authorisation from plant breeders.

A view has emerged in the country that a sui generies system of plant variety protection would be in our own interest to encourage greater investment in research and development of better varieties of seed.

The Government has accordingly started work on the drafting of suitable legislation which would also provide for farmers and researchers' privileges.

Export Trends

693. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the trend of exports during the first eight months of the current fiscal year as compared to the corresponding period in the preceding year;

(b) the commodity-wise breakdown, in volume as well as in value, of exports during the last two years; and

(c) the unit value of the principal items of exports for both the years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Exports during the first eight months (April-November) of the current year (1993-94) are estimated at US$ 13840 million (Rs. 43405) crores compared to US$ 11594 million (Rs. 33053 crores) during the corresponding period of the preceding year signifying a growth of 19.37% in US$ terms.

(b) Information called for is voluminous. These are available in Volume I of the Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India (Annual Numbers for 1991-92 & 1992-93). March 1992 Issue, and March 1993 Issue, published by the DGCIS, Calcutta. These Publications are made available to the Lok Sabha Library.

(c) The unit values of principal items of exports for the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given in the statement.

Statement

Unit Values of Principal Export Commodities

(Value in Rupees)

S.No.	Commodities	Unit of Qty.	1991-92	1992-93
1.	Jute manufactures including twist and yarn	Ton.	16507.5	16993.0
2.	Tea and Mate	Kg.	56.0	58.1
3.	Coffee and Coffee substitutes	Kg.	33.7	33.0
4.	Iron Ore	Ton.	486.3	498.1
5.	Mica (Incl. Splittings) and Mica waste	Kg.	10.2	8.8
6.	Tobacco manufactured	Kg.	40.7	67.1
7.	Spices	Ton.	27588.4	30566.8
8.	Cotton, Raw	Ton.	19029.1	28521.4
9.	Marine Products	Ton.	75943.1	82695.3
10.	Sugar and Mollasses	Ton.	3528.2	7287.3
11.	Oil cake	Ton.	2527.1	4200.5
12.	Shellac	Ton.	45213.7	81959.5
13.	Cashew Kernels	Ton.	128794.0	119485.4
14.	Rice	Ton.	11139.5	16808.0
15.	Wheat	Ton.	2193.4	2778.3
16.	Coal	Ton.	1114.9	1310.8

Effect of GATT Agreement on Indian Gene Banks

694. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how and in what manner the Indian Gene Banks which have been created by ICAR and other Labs in the counrtry are going to be affected by the GATT Agreement;

(b) whether the Indian Genes which are superior and better in comparison to the genes of the other countries are going to be accepted under the GATT Agreement; and

(c) if so, what particular kind of genes, Government propose to press for acceptance by other countries signing the GATT Agreement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Uruguay Round Agreement on TRIPS requires members countries to provide for patenting of all invertions